

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are honored to recognize notable
4 organizations in the State of Illinois; and

5 WHEREAS, The Garden of Prayer Youth Center is a
6 not-for-profit organization located on a 49-acre farm in
7 Momence, Illinois with a goal of keeping families together;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Offering year-round structured educational,
10 recreational, and social activities for youth through three
11 programs, Life on the Farm, My Second Home, and After School,
12 the Garden of Prayer Youth Center serves more than 2,000
13 youth and parents each year in Momence, Kankakee, and the
14 surrounding counties; and

15 WHEREAS, The Garden of Prayer Youth Center provides many
16 services, including summer employment and programs,
17 counseling, mentoring, tutoring programs, food and emergency
18 financial assistance to several families, a Teen REACH after
19 school program, and intervention service to families in
20 crisis; and

21 WHEREAS, Established in 1978, the Garden of Prayer Youth
22 Center was founded by the Reverend Shole and Mrs. Doris
23 Jordan, who have offered their service and refuge to many
24 disadvantaged youth and their families in the hope of
25 encouraging and fostering strong Christian character and
26 developing law abiding citizens; and

27 WHEREAS, The mission of the Garden of Prayer Youth Center
28 includes making youth aware of their capabilities, strengths,
29 and weaknesses; to teach good moral standards and
30 self-discipline; to encourage and assist youth in obtaining a
31 good education; to instruct on how to work and provide an

1 honest living; to teach youth to be aware and take advantage
2 of opportunities presented; and to teach youth to be creative
3 and persistent in obtaining their desires in life, keeping in
4 mind "We can do all things through Christ who strengthens
5 us"; and

6 WHEREAS, Thanks to the dedication and commitment of the
7 staff and volunteers at the Garden of Prayer Youth Center,
8 thousands of children and their families have been given a
9 hopeful glimpse of the future; therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
11 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
12 we honor the founders and staff of the Garden of Prayer Youth
13 Center in Momence for their dedication and commitment to
14 disadvantaged youth and families in need; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
16 presented to the Reverend Shole and Mrs. Doris Jordan as an
17 expression of our esteem.